

blood chemistry, serum diagnosis, agglutination and precipitation tests, complement fixation, blood grouping and staining methods. It has been brought up-to-date in almost every section, yet a book under date of November 1925 should have some reference to recent work on the parathyroid hormone and the more recent work on the hormone of the pancreas.

J. H. ELLIOT

Text-Book of Orthopaedic Surgery. For Students of Medicine. James Warren Sever, M.D. 353 pages, illustrated. The Macmillan Co. of Canada, Toronto, 1925.

This book presents to the medical student orthopaedic surgery in simple terms.

Congenital deformities are presented first and their early treatment in emphasized, also the prognosis of the different types is mentioned.

The diagnosis and treatment of scoliosis by means of gymnastics and plaster corrective jackets is presented. It is mentioned that in severe scoliosis the treatment may take two years; but nothing is mentioned in reference to those cases which do not improve after two years of treatment, and in which you cannot persuade the parents to carry on further with gymnastic treatment. I think the Hibbs operation has justified itself in this type of case and should be mentioned as the treatment indicated after gymnastics had been tried and failed to produce the desired results.

The chapter on tuberculosis of joints is concise and most interesting reading. The different joints are considered as to prognosis and treatment. Conservative treatment is advocated in every case.

The different types of paralysis form an interesting chapter. The standard and accepted procedures of treatment are the ones mentioned. They have stood the tests of time; numerous transplantations of small tendons having gone out of use. Obstetrical paralysis is also taken up in this chapter, the conditions peculiarly favourable for the production of such an injury and the early and late treatment given are excellent.

The chapters on painful and irritable backs, arthritis, bone affections, internal derangements of the knee, special fractures, recurrent dislocation of the shoulder joint, flat feet, are uniformly good.

The bed and nursing care of orthopaedic cases, also the application of plaster and apparatus is particularly emphasized and well illustrated. This alone would highly recommend this book as being of value to the general practitioner as well as to the medical student.

E. V. HOGAN

The Clinical Study and Treatment of Sick Children.

John Thomson, M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.P. (Ed.). Fourth edition. 912 pages, 258 illustrations. Price 30/- net. Oliver & Boyd, Tweeddale Court, Edinburgh, 1925.

This is now the fourth edition, revised and enlarged, of this very readable book, which, as its name implies, is essentially a clinical study. It is well printed and profusely illustrated with good photographs. The arrangement of the material and of the table of contents is excellent. Of particular interest are some of the facts in the section on growth and development of the infant with the section on home care of the defective child, a point which is not stressed in most paediatric text-books of American origin. The author lays particular stress on certain phenomena connected with teething and of the effect of carbohydrate on the formation and preservation of the teeth. The treatment of otitis media by dry methods and the instillation of phenol and glycerine drops is given. Under the artificial feeding of infants with cows' milk the use of cream and top milk mixtures and alkalis are advocated. The author states "so

long as the control of the milk supply is so entirely inefficient as it is at present in this country (Great Britain) it will be necessary to recommend that fresh dairy milk be boiled before it is used." The uses of caloric estimations of feedings are mentioned. However, the use of buttermilk and lactic acid milk is discussed in the same number of lines as is the use of whey and asses' milk in infant feeding. Finkelstein's classification of nutritional disorders in infancy is discussed; and under the signs of nutritional disorders it is stated that "when a child has got too much of one of the elements of the food and the line of tolerance is passed very characteristic symptoms appear," and, "that in most food disorders the differences in the clinical features depend entirely on the differences in the feeding, and do not indicate the presence of different diseases." The separation of chronic intestinal indigestion from so-called celiac disease is not in common use on this continent. Castor oil is suggested in the latter disease in 5 minim doses thrice daily. The discussion of congenital hypertrophic pyloric stenosis is excellent, and is well illustrated by good photographs. The section on the central nervous system contains a discussion of the various types of amentia. At the end of the book there are several appendices containing methods of case taking, periods of incubation and the infectiveness of the infectious diseases, a discussion on allergy, certain instructions to mothers, and some formulæ in use in the author's practice, in the treatment of some of the common diseases of childhood, are also appended.

The book on the whole makes most interesting reading and forms a worthy addition to the library of either the practitioner interested in diseases of children or of the paediatrist.

R. R. STRUTHERS

Midwifery. Part II. Third edition. 70 pages. Price 1/6d. net. E. & S. Livingstone, 16 Teviot Place, Edinburgh, 1925.

This is a short concise questionnaire on the abnormal possibilities in obstetrics. If used merely as a compend to a larger volume it might prove a valuable aid for examination purposes.

Published as it is by an English firm, many of the manoeuvres are described as carried out in the left lateral position instead of in the lithotomy; and measurements are given in inches instead of centimeters. Not everyone will agree that a baby should be nursed every two hours, or that a curettage done on a patient, who has had repeated abortions, will check the tendency to miscarry.

But these are minor criticisms. On the whole the teaching is conservative and sound, and covers the main abnormalities and their treatment.

ELEANOR PERCIVAL

Diseases of the New-Born. By August Ritter von Reuss. 625 pages. John Bale, Son & Danielsson, Ltd., Oxford House, London, W.1, 1924.

The usefulness of this book, which is the most comprehensive work available on the subject, suffers considerably from lack of revision. It was written eleven years ago. Many important advances have been made in our knowledge of the etiology and treatment of diseases of the new-born since 1914. As an example the theory advanced by von Reuss that thymic death is the result of suffocation due to pressure of the enlarged thymus on the trachea is now known to be erroneous. No mention is made, naturally, of the spectacular results recently obtained by Roentgen-ray treatment of these cases. The author's conception of "Hæmorrhagic disease of the new-born" is not the same as the present conception of the disease. In regard to the treatment of hæmorrhagic disease, although the author does mention transfusion of the blood, still it is obvious that he did not recognize

the specificity of this treatment. Also the recent life saving treatment of erysipelas by transfusion is not mentioned. These are only a few examples which serve to illustrate the manner in which this book suffers from not having been brought up-to-date.

Many of the subjects considered are more of academic than practical interest. The space allotted to some of the commonly encountered conditions is not comparable to their importance from the standpoint of the practitioner. As an example "congenital stenosis of the pylorus" is allotted only two and a half pages, while the discussion of "Hirschsprung's disease" which is an extremely uncommon condition occupies nearly five pages. On the whole however this work is thorough and comprehensive. Although it can not be recommended to students or practitioners, who have not some knowledge of the recent advances in this field, it is still a most valuable and useful book.

F. F. TISDALE.

Alcohol in Medical Practice. C. C. Weeks, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. 186 pages Price 3/6 net. H. K. Lewis & Co., 28 Gower Place, London, W.C.1, 1925

This small work, which is dedicated to Victor Horsley, Mary Sturge and Sims Woodhead, presents the alcohol question in essence and deals with it in the trenchant manner dear to the heart of the reformer.

The effect of alcohol is considered in medicine generally, in circulatory diseases, in pneumonia, as a food, in diseases of children and in some surgical conditions. In all these conditions it is found to be useless, if not harmful.

One-third of the book is devoted to appendices, where, in tabular form, the waning use of spirituous

liquor in various hospitals within and without the British Empire is illustrated.

The final chapter is headed "Evolution of Medical Opinion" presumably concerning the alcohol problem from the year 1725 down to the present day.

For those anxious to collect material for propaganda this book will be found an excellent storehouse. As a scientific treatise on the use of a therapeutic measure it may be held to be lacking in certain particulars.

J. M. PATTERSON

The Diabetic Life. Its Control by Diet and Insulin.

By R. D. Lawrence, M.A., M.D. 161 pages, 10 illustrations. The Macmillan Co. of Canada, Toronto, 1925.

The author very clearly summarizes our present day knowledge of diabetes. He shows how the work of Allen and the brilliant discovery of insulin by Banting have placed the treatment of diabetes on an entirely new and highly scientific footing. The task Dr. Lawrence has undertaken is to simplify the details of treatment so that it can be readily but accurately carried out by the general practitioner.

His first step in the dietetic management is by what he calls the line-ration scheme which is simple enough. This is succeeded by a five-gram diet scheme which, as the author states, "in theory it is ideal and succeeds most admirably."

The book is written for the patient as well as the doctor, and I can see nothing but good from its being read by sufferers from this disease, for hearty co-operation is essential to successful treatment.

It instructs the diabetic how a life endurable, even of much enjoyment and of many years duration, can be achieved. It cannot fail also to increase the public's respect for what science is doing to combat disease.

URASAL

Indicated in the treatment of High Blood Pressure.

Ask for Literature—Free package to Physicians.

FRANK W. HORNER, LIMITED

"The-All-Canadian-House"

TORONTO - MONTREAL - WINNIPEG - VANCOUVER